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Eugene R. Montalvo
Eugene R. Montalvo

Date: May 8, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)

DONALD WAYNE ALLEN ET AL.)

Serial No. 08/970,312)

Filed November 14, 1997)

FAIRED TRUSS SPAR)

Group Art Unit: 3673

Examiner: J. Lee

May 8, 2001

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED FEBRUARY 20, 2001

Hon. Assistant Commissioner
of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Attorney in the above-captioned case hereby responds to the Office Action mailed February 20, 2001. At the time of the Office Action, claims 1, 2 and 4-8 were pending.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 were pending when the Office Action issued. Attorney thanks the Examiner for the approval of the corrections to the substitute sheets of drawings filed on December 11, 2000.

Rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In numbered paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1, 2 and 6 as being obvious under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Horton '467, in view of PCT publication (WO 95/26294), and in further view of Jones '605. Attorney respectfully traverses the rejection. Attorney also notes that the PCT publication corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,875,728 and that the specification of the

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